

## Subpart H—Advertising of Distilled Spirits

### § 5.61 Application.

No person engaged in business as a distiller, rectifier, importer, wholesaler, or warehouseman and bottler of distilled spirits, directly or indirectly or through an affiliate, shall publish or disseminate or cause to be published or disseminated by radio or television broadcast, or in any newspaper, periodical, or any publication, by any sign or outdoor advertisement, or any other printed or graphic matter, any advertisement of distilled spirits, if such advertising is in, or is calculated to induce sales in, interstate or foreign commerce, or is disseminated by mail, unless such advertisement is in conformity with §§ 5.61 through 5.66 of this part. Provided, that such sections shall not apply to outdoor advertising in place on (effective date of this treasury decision), but shall apply upon replacement, restoration, or renovation of any such advertising; and provided further, that such sections shall not apply to a retailer or the publisher of any newspaper, periodical, or other publication, or radio or television broadcast, unless such retailer or publisher or radio or television broadcaster is engaged in business as a distiller, rectifier, importer, wholesaler, or warehouseman and bottler of distilled spirits, directly or indirectly, or through an affiliate.

[T.D. ATF-180, 49 FR 31673, Aug. 8, 1984]

### § 5.62 Definition.

As used in §§ 5.61 through 5.66 of this part, the term “advertisement” includes any written or verbal statement, illustration, or depiction which is in, or calculated to induce sales in, interstate or foreign commerce, or is disseminated by mail, whether it appears in a newspaper, magazine, trade booklet, menu, wine card, leaflet, circular, mailer, book insert, catalog, promotional material, sales pamphlet, or in any written, printed, graphic, or other matter accompanying the bottle, representations made on cases or in any billboard, sign, other outdoor display, public transit card, other periodical literature, publication, or in a radio or television broadcast, or in any

other media; except that such term shall not include:

(a) Any label affixed to any bottle of distilled spirits; or any individual covering, carton, or other container of the bottle which constitute a part of the labeling under §§ 5.31 through 5.42 of this part.

(b) Any editorial or other reading material (*i.e.*, news release) in any periodical or publication or newspaper for the publication of which no money or valuable consideration is paid or promised, directly or indirectly, by any permittee, and which is not written by or at the direction of the permittee.

[T.D. ATF-180, 49 FR 31673, Aug. 8, 1984]

### § 5.63 Mandatory statements.

(a) *Responsible advertiser.* The advertisement shall state the name and address of the permittee responsible for its publication or broadcast. Street number and name may be omitted in the address.

(b) *Class and type.* The advertisement shall contain a conspicuous statement of the class to which the product belongs and the type thereof corresponding with the statement of class and type which is required to appear on the label of the product.

(c) *Alcohol content—(1) Mandatory statement.* The alcohol content for distilled spirits shall be stated in percent-alcohol-by-volume. Products such as “Rock and Rye” or similar products containing a significant amount of solid material shall state the alcohol content at the time of bottling as follows: “Bottled at \_\_\_\_\_ percent-alcohol-by-volume.”

(2) *Optional statement.* In addition, the advertisement may also state the alcohol content in degrees of proof if this information appears in direct conjunction (*i.e.* with no intervening material) with the statement expressed in percent-alcohol-by-volume. If both forms of alcohol content are shown, the optional statement in degrees of proof shall be placed in parentheses, in brackets, or otherwise distinguished from the mandatory statement in percent-alcohol-by-volume to emphasize the fact that both expressions of alcohol content mean the same thing.

(d) *Percentage of neutral spirits and name of commodity.* (1) In the case of

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distilled spirits (other than cordials, liqueurs, and specialties) produced by blending or rectification, if neutral spirits have been used in the production thereof, there shall be stated the percentage of neutral spirits so used and the name of the commodity from which such neutral spirits have been distilled. The statement of percentage and the name of the commodity shall be made in substantially the following form: “\_\_\_% neutral spirits distilled from \_\_\_\_\_ (insert grain, cane products, or fruit, as appropriate)”; or “\_\_\_% neutral spirits (vodka) distilled from \_\_\_\_\_ (insert grain, cane product, or fruit, as appropriate)”; or “\_\_\_% grain (cane products), (fruit) neutral spirits”; or “\_\_\_% grain spirits”.

(2) In the case of neutral spirits or of gin produced by a process of continuous distillation, there shall be stated the name of the commodity from which such neutral spirits or gin has been distilled. The statement of the name of the commodity shall be made in substantially the following form: “Distilled from grain”, or “Distilled from cane products”, or “Distilled from fruit.”

(e) *Exception.* (1) If an advertisement refers to a general distilled spirits line or all of the distilled spirits products of one company, whether by the company name or by the brand name common to all the distilled spirits in the line, the only mandatory information necessary is the name and address of the responsible advertiser. This exception does not apply where only one type of distilled spirits is marketed under the specific brand name advertised.

(2) On consumer specialty items, the only information necessary is the company name or brand name of the product.

[T.D. 7020, 34 FR 20337, Dec. 30, 1969, as amended by T.D. ATF-180, 49 FR 31674, Aug. 8, 1984; T.D. ATF-237, 51 FR 36394, Oct. 10, 1986]

### § 5.64 Legibility of mandatory information.

(a) Statements required under §§ 5.61 through 5.66 of this part to appear in any written, printed, or graphic advertisement shall be in lettering or type

size sufficient to be conspicuous and readily legible.

(b) In the case of signs, billboards, and displays the name and address of the permittee responsible for the advertisement may appear in type size of lettering smaller than the other mandatory information, provided such information can be ascertained upon closer examination of the sign or billboard.

(c) Mandatory information shall be so stated as to be clearly a part of the advertisement and shall not be separated in any manner from the remainder of the advertisement.

(d) Mandatory information for two or more products shall not be stated unless clearly separated.

(e) Mandatory information shall be so stated in both the print and audiovisual media that it will be readily apparent to the persons viewing the advertisement.

[T.D. ATF-180, 49 FR 31674, Aug. 8, 1984]

### § 5.65 Prohibited practices.

(a) *Restrictions.* An advertisement of distilled spirits shall not contain:

(1) Any statement that is false or untrue in any material particular, or that, irrespective of falsity, directly, or by ambiguity, omission, or inference, or by the addition of irrelevant, scientific or technical matter tends to create a misleading impression.

(2) Any statement that is disparaging of a competitor's product.

(3) Any statement, design, device, or representation which is obscene or indecent.

(4) Any statement, design, device, or representation of or relating to analyses, standards or tests, irrespective of falsity, which the appropriate TTB officer finds to be likely to mislead the consumer.

(5) Any statement, design, device, or representation of or relating to any guarantee, irrespective of falsity, which the appropriate TTB officer finds to be likely to mislead the consumer. Money-back guarantees are not prohibited.

(6) Any statement that the distilled spirits are distilled, blended, made, bottled, or sold under or in accordance with any municipal, State, Federal, or